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Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Chief, EE/OPC

FROM : Assistant Director for Communications

SUBJECT: Project BGSPEED, EE-10.1

DATE: 10 September 1951

Refs : (a) EE Memorandum to Commo dated 20 August 1951 on above subject
(b) Commo Division memorandum to Chief, EE, dated 7 Jan. 1951 re Technical Fitness of BGFIEND Installation
(c) (IN 20069)

1. The Chief, EE/OPC has requested an opinion from this Office concerning the proposed abandonment of Project BGSPEED, EE-10.1.

2. Conferences with [] and [], Communications Office Engineers, who recently returned from Athens, confirmed that all tests conducted to date into the target area using medium wave equipment aboard the vessel have been based on ground wave signal propagation. The fact that ground wave propagation would not give satisfactory performance over the distances involved has been known from the beginning of the project.

3. Successful tests of the vessel's medium wave transmitter conducted by the Office of Communications during December 1950 made use of sky wave propagation at a distance from the Washington area of between 400 and 500 miles. Reference (b) defines the extreme conditions under which these tests were made.

4. [] reference (c), cites a serious condition of the vessel's hull, i.e., dry rot, and major engine and engine transmission faults which precluded conducting the sky wave propagation tests by [] and [] at distances comparable to those used in the shakedown tests. Further, the fresh water tank leaks noted have made it necessary to remove the equipment from the vessel. It appears that the condition of the vessel makes it impossible to operate as intended at considerable distances from the target area using sky wave propagation characteristics of the equipment.

5. In view of the above factors, the Office of Communications recommends against replacement of the equipment aboard the JUANITA. Further, it is recommended that this equipment be reserved for standby use in the new base transmitter area now under construction.

6. Communications will study the possibilities for medium wave broadcasts to Albania from the new [] Your office will be informed of the results of this study.

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NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2007

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